

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a complex mixture of cDNA ~~obtaining a transcription comprising the production of a complex cDNA mixture by~~ reverse ~~transcription of~~ transcribing mRNA from tissues or cells, said reverse transcribing comprising adding ~~characterized by the addition, in the a mRNA reaction medium, of elongation terminators, recovery of the~~ said producing further comprising recovering said cDNA mixture formed from said reverse transcribing, preferably followed by its purification.

2. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, characterized by the use of dideoxynucleotides as elongation terminators.

3. (Currently Amended) A Kits for the synthesis of cDNA mixtures according to ~~the method of Claim 1, characterized in that they contain, in addition, comprising~~ reagents for carrying out reverse transcription, and ~~elongation terminators, especially dideoxynucleotides, and instructions for use.~~

4. (Currently Amended) cDNA mixtures as obtained by application of the method according to Claim 1, ~~reliably reflecting the state of transcription of a tissue or of cells, i.e. the number of and the level of gene expression.~~

Claim 5 (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A method for studying the profiles of expression of the genes present in a tissue or in cells, characterized in that it comprises contacting ~~bringing~~ cDNA mixtures according to Claim 4 ~~into contact with the DNA of said tissue to be studied.~~

7. (New) A method for detecting or a method for identifying a tissue-specific DNA sequence comprising hybridizing a complex cDNA mixture of claim 4 to tissue DNA wherein isolated DNA from said tissue is bound to a filter, said hybridization being conducted under conditions which allow said cDNA mixtures to hybridize to said DNA sequences, and detecting hybridization of cDNA from said mixture to said tissue DNA such that said hybridization indicates or identifies said tissue-specific DNA.

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 5 has been rewritten as new claim 7. Claim 5 has been canceled, without prejudice. The claims have been amended, without prejudice, to advance prosecution. No new matter has been added.

The specification has been amended to include an Abstract.

The Section 101 rejection of claim 5 is moot in view of the above. The claims are submitted to define patentable subject matter.

The Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 1-6 is obviated by the above amendments. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 1-6 are requested.

The Section 102 rejection of claims of 1 and 2 over Weissman (U.S. Patent No. 4,738,928), is traversed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested in view of the following distinguishing comments.

The cited patent relates to a method for cloning genes wherein the mRNA corresponding to the gene is present in very low amount in a mRNA mixture.

A short amino acid sequence of the searched peptide (5-25 amino acid) must be known. According to the method, a complementary probe is used in a reverse transcription reaction in a mRNA mixture containing the target. End chain terminators are used to stop the elongation. Contrary to the present invention, the addition of elongation terminators is not carried out for obtaining a cDNA mixture representing the number and the level of expression of genes extracted from the tissue or the cell to be studied.

Accordingly, it is believed that the cited patent does not teach the presently claimed invention.

The Section 102 rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-6 over Decraene (Biotechniques, Vol. 27, 1999, pages 962-966) is traversed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested as the cited document was published after the filing of the applicants' presently claimed priority document. An English translation of the priority document will be filed under separate cover once received by the undersigned.

The Section 103 rejection of claim 3 over Weissman in view of GeneAmp Reagent Kit/Instructions for Use (1988), is traversed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested as the secondary reference fails to cure the deficiencies noted above with regard to the cited patent.

The Section 103 rejection of claim 3 over Decraene in view of the Gene Amp Reagent Kit/Instructions for Use is traversed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested in view of the above comments relating to the primary reference.

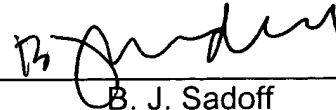
The application is submitted to be in condition for allowance for the reasons noted above. A Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned if anything further is required in this regard.

ARNOULD et al
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Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____



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